

## California Monthly Climate Summary

### October 2006

#### **Summary**

October 2006 starts water year 2007 and it started off below normal. For the statewide average, high temperatures averaged 72.3° F which is a full two degrees below the long-term average and 9.6° below September's average of 81.9° F. The low temperatures yielded a statewide average of 45.7° F which is 1.2° below the long-term average. Statewide there were 21 temperature records tied or broken for the month and 5 precipitation records tied or broken. The maximum temperature in the NWS Cooperator Network was 88.6° F at Imperial. The minimum temperature was 17.7° F recorded at Bodie. Statewide extremes from the California Data Exchange Center's network of temperature gages are shown below.

The season's first storms passed over the state in October. The 8-Station Index for northern California precipitation showed 7 days of precipitation for a total of 0.53 inches. This is only about half of the long-term average for October. Other notable rainfall totals for the month include 1.01 inches at Blue Canyon and 1.23 inches at Crescent City which was the maximum precipitation recorded for the month in the co-operative network. The statewide average precipitation for the month based on the National Weather Service cooperative network was 0.31 inches. All but six of the stations in the National Weather Service's cooperative network reported precipitation in October. Additional precipitation statistics for the state's hydrologic regions are shown in the table below.

The El Nino/Southern Oscillation is being classified as a weak/moderate El Nino episode. Equatorial sea surface temperature anomalies for the eastern Pacific are running between 1.0 and 1.2 degrees Celsius. El Nino conditions are expected for the rest of the year and into spring of 2007. Madden Julien Oscillation activity decreased in October. Further discussion can be found at [http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis\\_monitoring/enso\\_advisory/](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/). ENSO conditions along with current trends indicate a warmer than average remainder of the year for California. Precipitation forecasts show equal chance of above or below normal totals for the next three months. Long-range precipitation and temperature outlook plots can be found at: <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/longrang/>. General weather information of interest can be found at <http://www.noaa.gov/>.

For anomaly information please see [http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/anom/cal\\_anom.html](http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/anom/cal_anom.html).

Crop harvests are finishing up and the next round of planting is starting. Harvested fields have been shredded and disced. Early wheat and oat plantings have emerged. Good growth is being reported for naval oranges as well as fall garlic and onions. Stone fruit pruning and orchard maintenance continue. Nut orchards have completed or are completing harvest activities and beginning pruning activities. Increased irrigation was reported for winter vegetables due to drier conditions. Livestock are being moved from high-elevation pastures to foothill pastures. Foothill dry grass is being reported as abundant. Bees are being moved to winter storage areas. For further crop information, please see <http://www.nass.usda.gov/index.asp>

## **Other Climate Summaries**

[California Climate Watch \(DRI\)](#)

[Golden Gate Weather Service Climate Summary](#)

[NOAA Monthly State of the Climate Report](#) (October report expected after the 11/14)

## **Statewide Extremes**

High Temperature – 104 deg F (Buttercup, Colorado Desert)

Low Temperature - 9 deg F (Sawmill, South Lahontan)

High Precipitation – 1.42 inches (Gasquet Ranger Station, North Coast)

Low Precipitation –0 inches (multiple sites)

## **Statewide Precipitation Statistics (as of 11/9/06)**

Hydrologic Region	Region Weight	Basins Reporting			Stations Reporting			Percent of Historic Average	
		Basins	Oct	Oct-Oct	Stations	Oct	Oct-Oct	Oct	Oct-Oct
NORTH COAST	0.27	5	3	3	19	8	8	19.3%	19%
SAN FRANCISCO BAY	0.03	2	2	2	6	4	4	32.8%	33%
CENTRAL COAST	0.06	3	3	3	11	6	6	15.7%	16%
SOUTH COAST	0.06	3	3	3	15	11	11	41.8%	42%
SACRAMENTO RIVER	0.26	5	5	5	43	25	25	19.4%	19%
SAN JOAQUIN RIVER	0.12	6	6	6	25	15	15	47.7%	48%
TULARE LAKE	0.07	5	4	4	28	16	16	56.0%	56%
NORTH LAHONTAN	0.04	3	3	3	14	10	10	50.2%	50%
SOUTH LAHONTAN	0.06	3	3	3	15	9	9	119.5%	120%
COLORADO RIVER	0.03	1	1	1	6	3	3	10.2%	10%
STATEWIDE WEIGHTED AVERAGE	1.00	36	33	33	182	107	107	33.8%	34%

## **Statewide Mean Temperature Data by Hydrologic Region (degrees F)**

Hydrologic Region	No. Stations	Minimum	Average	Maximum
North Coast	31	33.8	53.3	78.5
SF Bay	20	43.0	58.4	77.5
Central Coast	36	44.0	58.3	78.1
South Coast	67	44.6	61.7	85.0
Sacramento	96	33.8	54.1	78.2
San Joaquin	72	37.3	54.1	73.7
Tulare Lake	16	30.0	49.2	71.8
North Lahontan	28	23.0	42.5	63.9
South Lahontan	20	32.0	51.4	71.8
Colorado River	15	51.5	71.0	92.5
Statewide Weighted Average	401	35.5	54.3	77.2